been given the task of producing 44 lakhs extra jobs during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, how Government plan to invigorate Small Scale Industries sector enabling it to meet this target?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Taking into consideration, the higher potential for growth in the Small Scale Industries (SSI) sector in terms of output, employment and exports, the strategy for Tenth Plan is to strengthen the sector to enable it to remain competitive in market-led economy and generate additional jobs. For achieving these objectives, the SSI sector would be provided proper and timely inputs like:

1. Adequate credit/loans from financial institutions/banks.
2. Funds for technology upgradation and modernisation.
3. Adequate infrastructure facilities.
4. Modern testing facilities and quality certification laboratories.
5. Modern management practices and skill upgradation through advanced training facilities.
6. Marketing assistance.
7. Level playing field at par with the organised sector.

Growth rate of SSIs in Tenth Plan

†2462. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set the target for annual growth rate for the small scale industries for the Tenth Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the percentage of contribution of the small scale industries to the gross domestic production in the country as per the target?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) The small scale industries sector is targeted to grow at the rate fo 12% per annum during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(c) The Plan target has not been fixed in terms of contribution of small scale industries to gross domestic production.

SSIs in Himachal Pradesh

2463. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up Small Scale Industries in rural, backward, snowbound and far flung areas in Himachal Pradesh for the benefit of most weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the programme drawn up during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) The development of Small Scale Industries (SSI) units is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments. The Central Government does not set up any SSI units. SSI units are set up by individual entrepreneurs in the country including in Himachal Pradesh. The Central Government supplements the efforts of State/UT Governments through various schemes/programmes relating to enhanced fiscal and credit support, better infrastructure, marketing facilities and incentives for technology upgradation. These schemes/ programmes are being implemented across the country.

(b) To further boost setting up and development of SSIs in Himachal Pradesh the following measures have been announced on 7th January, 2003:—

(i) The funding pattern for setting up Integrated Infrastructural Development Centres in Himachal Pradesh now provides for Central grant of 80% (in lieu of 40% earlier) of the project cost with a maximum of Rs. 4.00 crores (in lieu of Rs. 2.00 crores earlier) for each Centre.

(ii) 100% outright excise duty exemption for a period of 10 years from the date of commencement of commercial production.